
AP[®] Art and Design

Scoring Guidelines Sustained Investigation

From the 2021 AP Exam Administration

Sustained Investigation Rubric

General Scoring Notes

When applying the rubric, the score for each row should be considered independently from the other rows. Student work may receive different scores for each row.

When applying the rubric for each individual row, you should award the score for that row based solely upon the criteria indicated for that row, according to the preponderance of evidence.

Rows A and B include additional decision rules used during the AP Art and Design Reading.

Row	Scoring Criteria		
A	Inquiry Writing Prompt 1: <i>Identify the question(s) or inquiry that guided your sustained investigation.</i>		
	1	2	3
	Written evidence identifies an inquiry but visual evidence does not relate to that inquiry. OR Written evidence does not identify an inquiry.	Written evidence identifies an inquiry that relates to the sustained investigation. AND Visual evidence demonstrates the sustained investigation.	Written evidence identifies an inquiry that guides the sustained investigation. AND Visual evidence demonstrates the sustained investigation.
	Decision Rules and Scoring Notes		
	<i>Read the written evidence statement.</i> Is there an inquiry in the writing? If no, award 1 point. If yes, move to criteria for score point 2.	<i>Read the written evidence statement.</i> Does the inquiry in the writing relate to the visual evidence? Does the visual evidence demonstrate the SI? If no (for either or both) award 1 point. If yes (for both), move to score point 3 criteria.	<i>Read the written evidence statement.</i> Does the inquiry in the writing guide the SI? If no, award 2 points. If yes, award 3 points.

AP 2-D/3-D/Drawing Art and Design: 2021 Scoring Guidelines

B	Practice, Experimentation, and Revision		
	Writing Prompt 2: <i>Describe how your sustained investigation shows evidence of practice, experimentation, and revision guided by your question(s) or inquiry.</i>		
	1	2	3
	Visual evidence of practice, experimentation, OR revision; however, visual evidence does not relate to a sustained investigation.	Visual evidence of practice, experimentation, OR revision relates to the sustained investigation. AND Written evidence relates to the visual evidence of practice, experimentation, OR revision.	Visual evidence of practice, experimentation, AND revision demonstrates development of the sustained investigation. AND Written evidence describes how the sustained investigation shows evidence of practice, experimentation, OR revision.
	Decision Rules and Scoring Notes		
	Does the visual evidence of PER relate to a SI? If no, award 1 point. If yes, move to criteria for score point 2.	Does the visual evidence of PER relate to the SI? Does the writing relate to the visual evidence of PER? <i>Read the written evidence statement and the text accompanying each image.</i> If no (for either or both), award 1 point. If yes (for both), move to score point 3 criteria.	Does the visual evidence of PER (all three) demonstrate development of the SI? Does the writing describe how the SI shows PER? <i>Read the written evidence statement and the text accompanying each image.</i> If no (for either or both), award 2 points. If yes (for both), award 3 points.

C	Materials, Processes, and Ideas		
	1	2	3
	Little to no evidence of visual relationships among materials, processes, OR ideas.	Visual relationships among materials, processes, OR ideas are evident .	Visual relationships among materials processes, AND ideas are clearly evident and demonstrate synthesis .

D	2-D/3-D/Drawing Art and Design Skills		
	1	2	3
	Visual evidence of rudimentary and moderate 2-D/3-D/Drawing skills.	Visual evidence of moderate and good 2-D/3-D/Drawing skills.	Visual evidence of good and advanced 2-D/3-D/Drawing skills.

AP Art and Design Sustained Investigation Rubric Terminology

(in order of appearance in rubric)

Sustained Investigation: an inquiry-based and in-depth study of materials, processes, and ideas over time

Inquiry: the process of asking questions in order to seek, to search, and to discover

Written Evidence: the written components that accompany the student's works of art and design

Visual Evidence: the visual components that make up the student's works of art and design

Identify: Indicate or provide information

Relates: having relationships and/or connections between

Demonstrate: to make evident

Indicate: to show, suggest, point out

Guides: the Inquiry leads the process of making works of art and design

Practice: the repeated use of materials, processes, and/or ideas

Experimentation: testing materials, processes, and/or ideas

Revision: making a purposeful change, correction, or improvement

Development: the furthering or advancing of an inquiry in a sustained investigation (through in-depth exploration of materials, processes, and ideas)

Materials: physical substances used to make works of art and design

Processes: physical and conceptual activities involved with making works of art and design

Ideas: concepts used to make works of art and design (that can be evident visually or in writing)

Relationships: connections

Synthesis: coalescence/integration of materials, processes, AND ideas

Skills: abilities

Rudimentary: emerging or undeveloped

Moderate: adequate

Good: proficient

Advanced: highly developed

2-D skills: use of two-dimensional elements and principles—point, line, shape, plane, layer, form, space, texture, color, value, opacity, transparency, time; unity, variety, rhythm, movement, proportion, scale, balance, emphasis, contrast, repetition, figure/ground relationship, connection, juxtaposition, hierarchy

3-D skills: use of three-dimensional elements and principles—point, line, shape, plane, layer, form, space, mass, volume, texture, color, value, opacity, transparency, time; unity, variety, rhythm, movement, proportion, scale, balance, emphasis, contrast, repetition, figure/ground relationship, connection, juxtaposition, hierarchy

Drawing skills: use of mark-making, line, surface, space, light and shade, composition